



## Written Public Comment

Provided for the September 7, 2022 Conference on Street Takeovers, hosted by the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission as of 9/7/2022 at 11:59pm.

For any questions, please email [cocnotify@coc.lacounty.gov](mailto:cocnotify@coc.lacounty.gov) or call (213) 253-5678.

Provide your public input below. Please do not share any sensitive personally identifiable information because this comment may be made public.	Name
The street takeovers seem to be happening more frequently and the people doing it have no care in the world of in the consequences that can result from their actions. It's like they are taunting law enforcement with their actions. What extreme actions/consequences are in place to stop this from happening. Maybe a 30 day impound is not enough, what about harsher punishments? Higher fines with suspension of licenses that are over two years. If an accident happens due to their actions they should face jail time in addition to suspension of license (3 years and above) and harsh fines of 5k.	
What about the sidewalks take overs? What about our kids safety when they get out of school, have to walk in streets for sidewalks are taken over by illegal taco stands, their tables and chairs, their customers! Something needs to be done! It's not right or fair they don't have to abide by our lawsbor Citizens safety! If my child gets hurt or my elderly parents their will be he'll to pay by the city and all illegal sidewalk venders!! Been complaining for 2 years sidewalk take overs! Double parking residential streets blocking driveways!!! SICK OF IT!!!!	Toti
What, if any, role does LA County Public Works have in addressing road design that accommodates or even encourages street takeovers, such as wide roads and intersections with no medians, traffic circles, or other physical barriers?	Justin L Robertson
Your panel doesn't appear to have any representation from anyone who has participated in street takeovers. Their perspective is as legitimate as any other participant's input.	Ronald Coleman
HELLO ANGELINOS GOODEVENING, FOR PUBLIC COMMENT I WOULD LIKE TO BRING ATTENTION TO THE STREET RACERS IN A DIFFEFENT LIGHT OR VIEW. INSTEAD OF GOING AND RIDING AGAINST THEM, LET RIDE ALONG SIDE THEM IN A SAFE MANNER. WE ALL KNOW RACING COULD BE A VERY DANGEROUS SITUATION. HAS ANYONE EVER THOUGHT OF A WAY TO MAKE THIS SITUATION SAFER. INTO A SITUATION ONE THAT CAN BECOME POSITIVE OR HAVE A POSITIVE OUTCOME. HOW ABOUT WE GIVE THE RACERS A TIME AND PLACE TO RACE THEIR CARS. ANYONE CAN RACE THEIR CARS AT CERTAIN PLACES FOR A FEE. WHICH IS TO BE AT THEIR DISCRETION BECAUSE IT WOULD CONSIDERED A DONATION WITH A STIPULATION THAT MORE THAN 10% HAS TO BE GIVEN BACK TO THE ANGELINO'S SOCIETY. PLACES OF INTEREST WOULD BE LIKE, WHITTIER BLVD WHERE LONG DISTANCES COULD BER RACED AT HIGH SPEEDS. MAYBE DODGERS STADIUM PARKING LOT WHERE SEVERAL RACES COULD BE TAKING PLACE AT ONE TIME. OR EVEN A FREEWAY MIDNIGHT SHUTDOWN (EXCEPT FOR ONE LANE FOR TRUCK DRIVERS) FROM THE 10 FWY TO THE 605 FWY TO THE 60 FWY TO THE 710 ENDING OF THE FWY WITH BLEECHERS ALIGNING THE EXIT RIGHT BEFORE YOU TURN ONTO VALLEY BLVD AND BIG TV SCREENS (EX.THE CITY WALK) THE RACES, BETS, AND WINNER CIRCLE WOULD BE DISPLAYED HERE (JUST A BIT LIKE SANTA ANITA RACE TRACK DOES) ON THEIR GROUNDS. LOS ANGELINOS WOULD PROFIT OFF IT GIVING A CUT TO LOS ANGELES 'S SOCIETY TO BUILD MORE HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS, SHAPE UP AND RECLAIM THE ABANDON HOMES FOR THEM, AND OR OFFER A LIVING ASSITANT STYLE HOMES (NOT JUST FOR THE SENIORS) BUT FOR THE LONELY PEOPLE WHO DON'T WANT TO LIVE ALONE. I THINK 6TH STREET BRIDGE IS A NEW UPGRADE OF LOS ANGELES AND THAT'S WHY I AM SUGGESTING THAT THIS COOL NEW ATTRACTION BR THR FIRST NEW AREA AS THE PLACE TO HAVE THE RACES. ALL THESE NEW IDEAS COULD MAKE SEVERAL NEW JOBS PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO WORK AT LIKE THE BUILDING OF THE HOMES, BUILDING OF A SPECTATORS AREAS, HOSTESSES AND GREETERS, BOOTH WORKERS, USHERS, SECURITY, PUBLIC SAFTY, EMERGENCY RESPONCE, TICKET COLLECTORS, TV MONITOR WORKERS, FILMING CREW, ANNOUNCERS, CLEAN UP CREW, SET UP CREW, ADVERTISEMENTS, VENDORS, MEAL TRUCK SPOTS, FOOD COURT WORKERS, COMMUNITY ADVISORS, BET COLLECTIONS, TRASH PICK UJP, COVID DISINFECTION CREW, AND EVEN A LOST AND FOUND AREA.	CINDY GURSKI
I am a concerned citizen. I have witnessed some motorists engaged in speeding and racing on public streets. Where I live I have seen some motorists driving at a high rate of speed. There has been street 'takeovers' in my community, and we need the government and communities to act and take action on putting a stop to this. It is a public safety issue. People's lives are in danger because of street takeovers.	Lionel Mares

In an effort to deter street takeover activity, perhaps stricter consequences are needed. Aside from traffic infraction citations, a petroleum fee for the wasted fuel in the form of gasoline consumption as well as wasting rubber that is left marring the roadways. Fees for roadway cleanup. If the drivers are under 21, parents should be held financially accountable for this rogue behavior. Finally, claims against the offender's driver's insurance could be made.

If you simply cannot make these young residents responsible enough to stop this insanity, find a way to take away their cars and their freedom. Maybe have helicopters dump some kind of ink or coloring on them so that you know who they are later. You'll know their vehicles. If they're so proud of being out there that they post it, then let them be proud later when they go home and they're family asked what is this dye on you. Take their cars away, stop babying these delinquents. Take back the streets.

I have been building race/show cars for over 20 years. Nothing that happens at these take overs would fall under any part of being a auto Enthusiast. People are severely injured, women are abused and sometimes sexually harrassed in a mob mentality fashion by men sometimes under the influence of illegal drugs. Property damage, road damage, looting, etc. The city of Los Angeles must move forward with decisive action to handle this growing situation. In my opinion we need to initiate some type of "car crushing program" the evidence is blasted and used for marketing of these events all over social media. These same videos can be used to locate, impound and ultimately crush these vehicles removing them from society and from the control of those with reckless behavior. If we can hold emergency sessions to move swiftly on other subjects affecting the population as a whole we should do the same. This is a cancer that is growing and must be stopped the people involved in these gatherings have zero respect for law enforcement, and zero respect for society as a whole. Thank You for your audience, Alexander Virula, AV Auto Design

Alexander  
Virula

they do it by my house almost every saturday around 3pm and i was told...they can do what they want because this is they're country

I beg of you to please make this street racing bullsh\*t stop. It is deadly. It is killing people. It is wrecking roadways and intersections. This is against every traffic law on the book of the penal code. More police need to be employed to sit on known intersections such as Venice/Lincoln blvds and where the 405 exit onto the Overland/National area. Many others. ANYONE caught attending/watching/driving in one etc. needs to be arrested, thrown in jail for a good long time, their car confiscated, their license take away forever with no chance to get it back, and fined so highly that they and their family will never recover from the financial hit. Those are the only things that make any sense whatsoever to the kind of folks who do that stupid/idiotic crap. And yes, I CAN call them stupid. Ignorant means you don't know any better. Stupid is knowing full well all the risks to yourself, your friends and others and doing it despite the facts. Anyone scheduling these things should go to jail with no access to email or a phone ever again.

Fed up with  
Street  
Takeovers

Don't let these folks play innocently ignorant. They are not. They just don't care. Gascon needs to put the penal code right smack down on these fools heads. We can't just throw the book at them. We need to throw the whole darn library at them. Fines for this type of behavior need to be upwards of \$100,000. No more ROR'ing these criminals. If one of them hasn't vehicular man slaughtered anyone yet, they will. An ounce of prevention folks. I've almost been killed by one of these people just going on my way to get home. There is a full blown legal racetrack about an hour and a half from here where they can go do that. The public infrastructure is not designed as their ill designed toy. The public is not going to tolerate this anymore, so this commission better do something hardcore and fast about it.

You can have a bleeding heart about oh kids will be kids all you want. Doesn't matter. This is a massive life, health, and safety issue. It cannot continue. Please make it very clear to these people that the full force and rule of law will be thrown at them for any nuance of participation in one or the planning thereof, and if the law isn't penalty enough, the laws will be changed to such extent they stop this behavior. Respectfully, thank you for your time and consideration. Know that I don't write this solo. I speak on behalf of at least 1,000 people in my neighborhood alone.

There is a solution to stop street takeovers. Red light and other surveillance cameras already in place, specific reflectors strategically placed in intersections so the law abiding citizens can traverse without damage to their tires, but those making donuts will have shredded tires. Anyone recorded removing equipment from the location should be subject to severe fines and penalties for damaging city or county property. This coupled with penalties and fines regardless of ethnicity. This is an electronic technical age and it should be used to capture and cite violators. Video should be submitted anonymously via cell phones just as smoking vehicles are to the AQMD. The video should show the license plate, if possible the driver and other occupants and all other information such as location, date, time etc which is automatically recorded with video. Those vehicles should be entered into SVS or NCIC as vehicles used in crimes and be subject to towing on sight just as stolen vehicles are. The registers owners are responsible for ensuring those who drive their vehicles are insured and have some moral fiber. Tow company contracts for impounding vehicles for 30 days should help stop the violators. This method does not require a police officer to make a traffic stop unless necessary, IE personally witnessed, reckless behavior etc. It's easy to submit video evidence to be screened and citations mailed when possible. Vehicles with temporary plates or no plates should be cited at all times 24/7 regardless of whether at the scene or not. Clear license plate covers are illegal and should be cited 24/7. Just because they sell it doesn't make it street legal. Vehicles or motorcycles with blue front facing lights should be cited on site as well. Enforcement can be achieved via technology! Ignoring it supports it and magnifies it. Quality of life needs to be restored.

Jimmy  
Brown

My question is how can we report individuals in our community who are constantly hosting and participating in street takeovers when we have a good description of the vehicle/ license plates/ or proof of them doing such actions?

This topic hits home for me. I am a professional race car driver, a professional automotive technician, AND...I grew up street racing as a kid in the greater L.A. area. Street racing was born in the 50's here in Los Angeles and there are many movies and documentaries that connect racing, racing technology, and some of the greatest development that happened due to a lot of those racers getting jobs in the industry. With all that said, I am against street take overs and the issues that "street racing" causes & brings to the community. There are all sorts of street racing crowds and clicks. Some are old school drag racers like me who prefer to take their racing to the outskirts of the city where few people travel, and are usually occupied by warehouses and roads not often traveled by the public if at all. These racers want to just race & be left alone so they can race. You have the newer crowds with their "tuner" cars (late model domestics & imports) that are usually late model, computer controlled store bought cars with modifications. This crowd has gained a lot of popularity over the years and has a popularity with the youth. These are the ones who run around in packs looking for intersections to take over & create mayhem in populated areas with lots of traffic. I've also seen these same tuner cars running on the freeway exceeding speeds of 150mph racing other cars causing a huge hi speed danger with the motoring public. Racetracks one after another have closed down. Los Angeles County Raceway. Brotherhood Raceway (Terminal Island). San Fernando Dragstrip. And many many others over the years. Essentially all that's left is Famoso in Bakersfield, Pomona raceway and Irwindale to race legally. None of these tracks provide for those who like "drifting", which is what you call those doing burn outs in circles at these intersection take overs.

John  
Stevenson

L.A. county should open a few publicly owned raceways in outskirted areas to give people somewhere to go to do these activities. Brotherhood Raceway in Terminal Island was a great track on 45 minutes from anywhere in Los Angeles. And far away from residential areas. With the massive increases in technology, cel phones, GPS & drones. There's no reason why units or helicopters couldn't be dispatched as soon as a street take over is called in. I see you have a task force already. More resources need to be given to them. Stiff penalties should go with this kind of activity. People can get hurt very easily from this kind of activity. But. LAPD & L.A. County Sheriffs could also act as organizers for creating safe places for these racers to race. All you have to do is turn on the Discovery channel to find that one of the blockbuster shows is called "Street Outlaws". This is a show about a group of racers from various area codes across the country all come together to race on the outskirts of a city

and race. Pilgrim productions has contracted with various local governments to hold these “street races”. They manage to do it. Why can’t we? This Discovery Channel show has put rural states & areas like Oklahoma, Tennessee, New Orleans, and Nevada on the map in regards to this activity. Nobody likes to see people get hurt. And many don’t like the danger & nuisance created by this as well. It’s easier to gather bees with a bunch of honey than vinegar. I believe this a very large and comprehensive problem. You’re going to need to use the tools of public service announcements, press releases, social media & face to face interaction with these communities in the street to get the word out depending on what you decide to do.

The daily street takeovers are a nuisance. The racing can be heard almost every night. The noise awakens you out of your sleep. THEN the Sheriff and HP comes, the racing stop. A HOUR AND A half pass by the racing picks up again. ALL NIGHT LONG. I WAS TOLD That sometimes no one bothers to break up the street racing that are held in the same locations each week. YOU HAD STOP POINTS FOR DRUNK DRIVERS! The street take overs are damaging our streets and making the streets look dirtier than what they already were. CROSSWALKS are being erased and street signs are being destroyed. IT is obvious that the youth of today have nothing to do. DO THEY HAVE CAR INSURANCE? Whose repaing there cars? WHERE ARE THEY GETTING THE TIRES THAT ARE USED TO TEAR UP OUR STREETS AND MOST OF ALL why is it that our smartest and brightest highest paid government officials can't seems to solve any of today's problems?

COMMUNITY  
WATCH

Please confiscate all cars involved in any street takeover, racing without having the right to bail out the car. Use the car for county founds. Suspend the license for 10 years.

Karla

The County Board of Supervisors, City Councils, elected officials, and law enforcement agencies should work together to create a law that allows law enforcement to work under cover so that officers attend some of the takeover incidents to videotape the scene. Once the videotaped evidence is preserved, the license plates of those vehicles can then allow law enforcement to the owner's address, where the vehicle can PERMANENTLY be confiscated and suspend driver license privileges of those involved in the takeover scenes. Very much as drunk drivers receive suspended license for a certain period and their vehicles need to have a breathalyzer device installed, the confiscated vehicles used in street takeovers should be sold to salvage scrap operators or demolished in a public setting. Only by taking the vehicles away will the perpetrators stop behaving with such reckless conduct. Please consider this radical proposal that I truly believe will make a difference. Thank you!

Alberto  
Vazquez

What services are available for victims if their property is damaged due to street racers drifting and spinning out? Cal VCB doesn't cover property damage.

Melinda  
Oakley

Representing the East Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, East Los Angeles Unincorporated has been inundated for the past two years with low rider events caused by illegal modified vehicles exhibiting using hydraulic lifts where the front of the car can jump the front tires of the ground eight feet. Very dangerous for the driver and all occupants. The audience that mirrors the street takeovers. Also, these same vehicles making donuts in the middle of the intersections and streets on three wheels. As a result of these unpermitted exhibition we have low rider car clubs and expectations drinking in public, parking in red blocking bus stops, blocking entrances to businesses and taking over businesses parking. These low riders when asked to clear the parking lot have been known to threaten business owner and security guards not only verbally but with weapons. The East Los Angeles Community has lost hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars in valuable law enforcement resources to the point now, that when a suspected event is to occur a section of Whittier Blvd. is shut down to all traffic except for busses. The East Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the East Los Angeles Collision, and, Whittie Boulevard Merchant Association comprise residents, business owners, property owners are asking for public officials to start ticketing and towing illegal modified vehicles and strictly enforce all laws during these illegal events. We ask legislators to take the lives of the constituents that are victims to these events seriously instead of patronaging people because the have nice cars. Please right stricter legislations holding these law breakers accountable for breaking all these laws. We are all tax payers, the loss of business is in the hundred of thousands of dollars, we deserve our representation to represent the needs of negatively impacted residents and business owners. We

Norma  
Aguirre,  
Eddie Torres,  
Tony  
DeMarco



thank Los Angeles Sherriff County Department, First District, and Sgt. Hoffeman for all their hard work but we need stricter law enforcement.	
Is there support from LASD and CHP for automated speed enforcement to help combat this issue? Since law enforcement can't be every where at every minute?	
If the officers were out and about in the community, they would see and know when an event were grouping. Question: Why aren't the officers out in the community?	Timothy
Lilly Trujillo what is the exact name of the scholarship that is in your daughters name?	Trisha Codd
When you speak of community engagement, aside from monitoring social media, and speaking with Gen Z, and working with local government to create new ordinances...what else can the community do. I am a Compton resident, and we feel hopeless. Street Takeovers are dangerous, but they also have lasting effects, it affects air quality, and it destroys our roadways.	Gilda Blueford
Is there a budget for effective PSA against street takeovers? Can Car Clubs sponsor anti-street takeover outreach events?	L Cruz
I'm hearing a lot of report to law enforcement what we know or what we see but the fact is even if we do, little can/will be done because there's not enough officers. We can pass laws but you still need officers to enforce them.	Janette Tupuola
Assemblyman Nazarian mentioned getting to the root of the problem. One of the roots in my opinion are the vehicles. We need to put more resources in our Traffic Divisions to enforce illegally modified vehicles which include but aren't limited to tint, too low, adding whatever parts that make it faster. Then have laws in place that support enforcement, not slap on the wrist types. I think we need to look at more preventive measures not reactive measures. I've also heard City ordinances. We will still need law enforcement to enforce those infractions and we don't have enough as it is.	
I was on the call this morning regarding street takeovers. I have a few suggestions with regards to implementation of harsher penalties for the vehicle owners and spectators. (1) Once vehicle is impounded more than 30 days, offenders should be mandated to do community service work by cleaning up the roads they're destroying , cleaning up graffiti along all roads as well as intersections damaged. (2) mandate they attended a minimum of 90 day classes on safe driving that they must pay for( tie it to dmv records). The same way DUI convictions must enroll in classes, perpetrators of illegal take overs must do same. (3) for those that have auto insurance, once arrested, law enforcement notify their auto insurance of illegal driving records. (4) increase impound fees to highest amounts and hold vehicles over 30 days.	Cheryl
The more patrolling we have on the streets at night, the less accidents there will be due to cars racing up and down the streets. People who manage to find a spot in which they are not being penalized, will encourage more people to show up to these spots. Also, an implementation of lights or cameras would be a great addition.	Oscar Ruiz
The area I live in Figueroa and Rosecrasns is a hot bed of illegal street racing and take overs. I've only been to one professional drag race competition in my life and yet on a daily basis I'm reminded of those sounds in my neighborhood. Anyone else who lives around here will tell you the same. More needs to be done to catch the people directly involved to prevent more deaths and injuries. As you may already know from TV news, these illegal events are now also involved in mob attacks on local convenience stores as well as other criminal activity. Please do something to stop this, like installing HD cameras, or speed humps in local neighborhood streets where events like this can bleed into as well. My neighborhood street is also used at high speeds, many times going right through stops signs. It has to stop! Thank you for your time.	Wilfrido Montoya Jr
My name is Patricia Wood. I live on 144th St. in Gardena since June 2020. We are fortunate to not have the wide streets on my streets. I drive Uber for a living and every day is like Nascar. I'm not a judge nor am I law enforcement. But I think that these individuals or groups need to have the book thrown at them- including confiscation of vehicles if possible.	Patricia Wood

I live here in harbor gateway. I am absolutely livid, scared and tired of these street takeovers. They are downright dangerous and costly for us tax payers. Please do something!. We cannot keep this going and we cannot have these people NOT held accountable.	Nina Hernandez
we need to be more firm and punish with outlaw people and day by day our Los Angels beautiful stat become fearful to be out there ,1- we need give ticket and certain hour not to allow any car to be in that spot , Jail time that will be another option ,people tired being every day negative things happen everyday . more police more punishment .	N/a
Not just street takeovers, but whenever cars begin to burn out and spin in intersections there are dangers. We believe every car involved must be impounded for at least 30 days, with citations for the owners and points against their licenses. They ONLY way to stop them is to make it very expensive to be involved in one. The money collected should be used for restoration of the areas they use.	Sheila Fierro